

WE CLAIM:

1. A method for delivering network resources comprising the acts of:

establishing request-response traffic between a
5 first and second computer; and

reformatting the request/response traffic at least once in at least one intermediary computer between the first and second computer.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the first computer comprises a client and the second computer comprises a server, and the act of establishing request-response traffic comprises:

5 generating a client request specifying resources available on the server;

retrieving the specified resources;

generating a response to the client request in the server and at least one of the intermediary computers;

10 and

forwarding the server response after reformatting from the at least one intermediary server to the client.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the act of reformatting comprises converting graphic data within the request/response traffic from a first graphic format to a second graphic format.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the act of reformatting comprises converting executable program constructs within the request/response traffic from a first format to a second format.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the act of reformatting comprises converting between a Java script component and an ActiveX component.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein the act of reformatting comprises converting formatted text within the request/response traffic from a first format to a second format.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the act of reformatting comprises converting text within the request/response traffic from a first language to a second language.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein the act of reformatting comprises converting hypertext links within the request/response traffic between an absolute form and a relative form.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein the act of reformatting comprises converting from a first markup language format to a second markup language format.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein the act of reformatting comprises converting a document from a first document format to a second document format.

11. The method of claim 1 wherein the act of reformatting comprises converting the data from a first compression level to a second compression level.

12. The method of claim 1 wherein the act of reformatting comprises considering special needs of the client during the reformatting.

13 The method of claim 1 further comprising: reformatting at least once in a second intermediary computer.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein the reformatting in the second intermediary computer undoes at least some

of the reformatting performed in the first intermediary computer.

15. The method of claim 1 wherein the reformatting comprises reformatting data included in responses only.

16. The method of claim 1 wherein the reformatting comprises the acts of:

resolving links within the request/response traffic to identify network resources pointed to by the links;
5 retrieving resources pointed to by the links;
embedding resources pointed to by the links in-line with other data in the request/response traffic; and
forwarding the request/response traffic after embedding.

17. A system for communicating data between first and second computers, the system comprising:

a intermediary computer coupled to a network;
first connection components within the intermediary
5 computer configured to communicate data traffic with the first computer;

second connection components within the intermediary computer configured to communicate data traffic with the second computer; and

10 reformatting components within the intermediary computer configured to reformat at least some of the data traffic before the data traffic between the first and second computers.

18. The system of claim 17 wherein the reformatting components comprise a graphic conversion process.

19. The system of claim 17 wherein the reformatting components comprise a compiler.

20. The system of claim 17 wherein the reformatting components comprise a media file conversion process.

21. The system of claim 17 wherein the reformatting components comprise data compression processes.

22. The system of claim 17 wherein the reformatting components comprise processes converting documents from a first markup language to a second markup language.